



HOW DO I KNOW THAT A CHILD HAS LISTENING AND ATTENTION DIFFICULTIES?

The following behaviours can be indicative of listening and attention problems, either in isolation or a combination of many.

- Easily distracted from listening.
- Difficulty listening in noisy environments.
- Difficulty in following verbal instructions.
- Slow or delayed responses to verbal stimuli.
- Frequently asks for repetition of instructions or questions.
- Often misunderstands what is said.
- Localisation problems – can't follow who's talking in a group.
- Cannot divide words into syllables or sounds or blend back into words.
- Reading and writing difficulties.
- Problems in learning sequences e.g. counting, days of the week, rhymes and songs.
- Either very good or very poor visual perception.
- Co-ordination problems.
- Withdrawn or aggressive.
- Poor self-image.

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR

The child may:-

- Be easily distracted or fidget.
- Appear to ignore you.
- Be quiet and withdrawn.
- Stare blankly into space and appear to be in their own world.



- Fidget and yawn and appear to be tired.
- Look around at peers and other objects close by.
- Be unable to answer simple questions and can only point to things in the picture.
- Have to be prompted to attend even when their name is called first.
- Lose focus easily and may get up and start to wander around the room.
- Need the help of an adult to keep them on task.
- Be unable to follow instructions without first watching to see what others are doing.
- Constantly ask for instructions to be repeated.

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